

tax bill should be disregarded. That different effective date was chosen merely because the minority leader was informed that the motion to recommit would otherwise have been subject to a point of order. Had the Republicans lived up to their promise to consider tax bills under open procedures, the minority leader would not have been forced to use that different effective date.

From the press, we already know the name of at least one wealthy American, and heir to the Starkist Tuna fortune, who renounced U.S. citizenship after February 6 of this year and, therefore, could benefit from a delay in the effective date of this legislation. We also know that other powerful lobbyists are representing families, such as the Getty family, in an attempt to delay this provision. We must guarantee that the efforts of these lobbyists will be unsuccessful.

Mr. Speaker, I wish this legislation had been enacted earlier. I believe the privileged few who amass great fortunes under our laws and then renounce their citizenship to avoid tax here should be asked to pay their fair share. Those who have sought to protect these few extraordinarily wealthy individuals may have won the early skirmishes in this battle for fairness. But introduction of this bill is a signal that we who care about fairness will not give up until we win the war.

#### COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island [Mr. KENNEDY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to support the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. For the thousands of Rhode Islanders from my district of Armenian descent who lost family members in this genocide, today is a particularly somber day.

But whether you are of Armenian descent or not, this day would be even more tragic if we did not remember. There is a quote that I think is particularly important today, and it goes as this:

First, they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak for me.

This quote is telling, because it can be said as much for the Armenian genocide as the Jewish Holocaust. In fact, it has not been lost on historians of this century that the failure to recognize the Armenian genocide for what it was made it easier, not harder, for evil minds like Hitler to believe that they could do the same.

Today, we in Congress are solemnly observing the tragedy of the Armenian genocide not only to honor the memory of those who died but, in doing so, to ensure that such horrors will never occur again.

#### EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR DR. HENRY FOSTER, SURGEON GENERAL NOMINEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, "unassuming, focused, compassionate, a consensus builder, a fine physician." Mr. Speaker, these are the words that people in Nashville—the people who know him best—use to describe Dr. Henry Foster, the nominee for U.S. Surgeon General.

When President Clinton was considering nominees for this post, he said that he was looking for someone who is qualified as a top-flight medical professional, a strong leader, and an effective communicator. Dr. Henry Foster is such a person. Unfortunately, though, a controversy has loomed surrounding his confirmation. Along with many other medical procedures, Dr. Foster has administered abortions during his 30-year medical career in the field of obstetrics and gynecology. For this, some would deny him the opportunity to serve as the "Nation's Doctor."

This debate will continue to be superficial until we move beyond the scratched surface. A Tuskegee, AL, woman would tell her story to the Charlotte Observer:

Jeannette Hight was 3½ months pregnant when she began bleeding in the middle of the night. Frantic, she called her obstetrician at home. With her doctor's careful help, Hight averted a miscarriage. That was more than 25 years ago. The Doctor was Henry Foster. Hight wants the nation to know that the man who saved the life of her only son is no "abortion doctor." She remembers Foster as a compassionate man committed to ushering in new life. She says, "What I've heard is a one-sided story. I haven't heard anything about all the lives that came into this world because of him. He is a man of great integrity."

Another Tuskegee woman told a different story of her memorable experience with Dr. Foster, printed in the U.S. News & World Report:

Joyce Carter German was a college junior, married and pregnant for a second time. She wanted an abortion. Foster refused. "This is not the right choice," he told her. The baby "is a blessing to you." German is now a medical technician; her daughter is in graduate school. She is glad Foster said no, and like others, she is puzzled that his fate may hang on how many abortions he has performed.

It is so terribly unfortunate that the work Dr. Foster has done over the years to prevent teenage pregnancy through his "I Have a Future" Program is being ignored by those who would rather focus on the number of abortions he has performed. In his own words in a Washington Post Op-Ed piece, Dr. Foster said, "It's ironic that my work fighting teenage pregnancy has been overshadowed by my opponents' talk about abortion. I do believe in the right of a woman to choose. And I also support the President's belief that abortion should be safe, legal, and rare. But my life's work has been dedicated to making sure that young peo-

ple don't have to face the choice of having abortions."

Let us not muddy the waters of this confirmation process with partisan bickering and selective research. I urge my colleagues in the other Chamber not to fall victim to the empty rhetoric designed to deny Dr. Foster's confirmation as the U.S. Surgeon General. Doing so would only serve to make the Senate confirmation process less credible to an already suspicious public. I urge the Senate to review Dr. Foster's complete record. Learn who Dr. Foster really is.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members should be advised to avoid comments regarding the confirmation process in the Senate.

#### TRIBUTE TO ALL CIVIL SERVANTS INVOLVED IN THE OKLAHOMA CITY TRAGEDY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. HOYER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be here with my colleagues to pay tribute to all of the civil servants involved in the Oklahoma City tragedy.

I had an opportunity of speaking earlier today as we passed the resolution expressing our outrage and our deep sympathy for that which happened in Oklahoma City during the last 2 weeks.

□ 1715

More than 550 Federal workers worked in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal building in Oklahoma City which, like Federal buildings across our Nation, provided an array of services to citizens in the region surrounding Oklahoma City.

It has long been my view that Federal workers are one of our Nation's greatest assets.

As President Lyndon Johnson once noted:

So very much of what we are as a Nation—and what we are to achieve as a people—depends upon the calibre and character of the Federal career people. In no other endeavor can you more directly serve our country's cause—or the values on which we stand—than in the public service.

We lost many of these fine men and women last month and I want to extend my heartfelt sympathies to all of their families, friends, their coworkers, their neighbors, and those they serve.

I had hoped to be speaking this week in celebration of public service recognition week, that special week each year when we recognize the enormous contributions made by public employees not just the Federal level, but at all levels of Government.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the mall will be filled with displays